

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of)	
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Jeffrey Wilson THORNTON et al.)	Group Art Unit: Unassigned
)	
Application No.: 09/868,139)	Examiner: Unassigned
)	
Filed: June 15, 2001)	
)	
For: ACIDIC SUPERABSORBENT)	
POLYSACCHARIDES)	

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicants hereby submit the following information in conformance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.98, a copy of each of the documents cited is enclosed.

The following references were cited on pages 1-4 in the specification of the above-identified application:

WO 98/27117;

U.S. Patent 5,247,072;

EP 202127;

WO 97/28298;

WO 99/29354; and

Rutenberg, M.W., "Starch Derivatives: Production and Uses", Acad. Press Inc., 1984, pp 324-332.

Also enclosed is a copy of the International Search Report issued in connection with the corresponding PCT application. The following references were cited:

EP 644207;

WO 98/27117, cited above;

Coviello T., et al., "A Novel Co-Crosslinked Polysaccharide: Studies for a Controlled Delivery Matrix", Journal of Controlled Release, vol. 55, no. 1., 30 October 1998, pp 57-66;

EP 889063;

U.S. Patent 4,371,208;

U.S. Patent 4,582,865;

EP 530438, which corresponds to U.S. Patent 5,453,323, a copy of the U.S. Patent is enclosed; and

EP 083267, which corresponds to U.S. Patent 4,755,468, a copy of the U.S. Patent is enclosed.

The documents are being submitted within 3 months of the filing or entry of the national stage of this application or before the first Office Action on the merits, whichever is later, therefore no fee or certification is required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b).

To assist the Examiner, the documents are listed on the attached form PTO-1449. It is respectfully requested that an Examiner initialed copy of this form be returned to the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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